

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicant: Colin Knight
Serial No. 10/626,753
Filed: 07/25/2003
For SPINE BINDER

] Before the Examiner
] Mark T. Henderson
] Art Unit 3722
] Atty. Docket #gbc72203

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Hon Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

Responsive to the Advisory Action mailed 11/30/2005, and in further response to the Office action mailed 08/25/2005, the examiner is requested to amend this application in accordance with this response, which is believed to place the case in allowable condition and which conforms to the discussions informally held with the examiner about December 13, 2005, as follows:

Cancel Claim 38, and substitute for cancelled Claim 38 new Claim 39, which is Claim 38 without the limitation "**said hinge member on said spine dividing said strip into longitudinal sections,**" objected to by the examiner in the Advisory Action mailed 11/30/2005 and which includes the limitations informally discussed with and agreed to by the examiner. New Claim 40 likewise includes these limitations discuss with and informally approved by the examiner. These new limitation are that

- each ring element having a surface adjacent a hinge brace--,
- said ring elements surfaces are engaged in direct contact with one another--
- when the hinge is closed...said hinge braces are in direct face to face contact with one another extending beyond the plane of said ring elements.--

Propose claim 40, which was not acceptable to the examiner, is omitted from this amendment. However, new Claim 40 is identical to suggested Claim 41, and includes the above